

REMARKS

This amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated July 19, 2010.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-12, 17, 19-21, 23-25, 27, and 31-40 are currently pending in the application, with Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 are amended herein. For the following reasons, this application should be considered in condition for allowance and the case passed to issue.

Claim Objections

Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 are objected to for certain informalities. Specifically, Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 are objected to because the recited limitation “wherein selecting the connection icon by the user from the desktop allows a connection represented by the connection icon to become modifiable to alter the connection of the connection icon by the user,” is allegedly a duplicate of the existing limitation “wherein selecting the first connection icon allows a first connection represented by the first connection icon to become modifiable to alter the first connection.” Without conceding the correctness of this objection, and to expedite prosecution of the present application, Applicants have amended each of these claims to remove the latter limitation. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 7, 17, 21, and 33-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,295,556 (“Falcon”), in view of U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2004/0003371 (“Coulthard”), and further in view of U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2004/0088377 (“Henriquez”). Claims 3, 9, 19, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Falcon, in view of Coulthard, and further in view of Henriquez, and further in

view of U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2002/0091850 (“Perholtz”). Claims 4, 10, 25, 27, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Falcon, in view of Coulthard, and further in view of Henriquez, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 7,039,709 (“Beadle”). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Falcon, in view of Coulthard, and further in view of Henriquez, and further in view of U.S. Pat. No. 7,181,524 (“Lele”). Claims 6, 12, 20, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Falcon, in view of Coulthard, and further in view of Henriquez, and further in view of U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2004/0183831 (“Ritchy”). Claims 11 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Falcon, in view of Coulthard, and further in view of Henriquez, and further in view of Beadle, and further in view of Lele.

Applicants’ claimed invention is directed to allowing a user to select a connection icon from a desktop of a remote computing device, where selecting the connection icon allows a connection represented by the connection icon to become modifiable to alter the connection. Applicants, for example, illustrate in FIG. 4 a desktop shell 402 that has such connection icons 404 and 405:

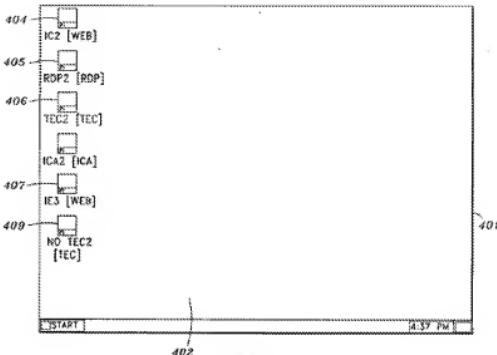


FIG. 4

See also Subject application, paragraph [64]. With respect to particular claim language, each of the independent claims, namely Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21, recites “a software feature configured to allow the user to select a connection icon from the desktop of the remote computing device, wherein selecting the connection icon by the user allows a connection represented by the connection icon to become modifiable to alter the connection of the connection icon by the user.”

The Office Action contends that Henriquez discloses “placing [a] connection icon/link for [a] transmitted icon on a desktop,” and that Falcon discloses “that when a user clicks on to [sic] select one of the connection icons... a user interface with various tabs to modify the selected existing connection or to enter configuration data for a new connection is displayed.” Office Action, p.15. Based on these contentions, the Office Action further contends that:

[I]t would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide a software feature configured to allow the user to select a connection icon from the desktop of the remote computing device, wherein selecting the connection icon by the user from the desktop allows a connection represented by the connection icon to become modifiable to alter the connection of the connection icon by the user, and wherein the remote computing device includes a windows-type operating system which does not allow the connection icon to be modified from the desktop by the user to alter the

connection of the connection icon in absence of the software feature... because such a method will provide a user-friendly interface for remote desktop applications, allowing user to easily modify the connection to applications executable on remote computers.

Office Action, pp.15-16. Applicants respectfully disagree with this contention. Specifically, assuming, *arguendo*, that Henriquez does disclose “placing [a] connection icon/link for [a] transmitted icon on a desktop,” and that Falcon does disclose “that when a user clicks on to [sic] select one of the connection icons... a user interface with various tabs to modify the selected existing connection or to enter configuration data for a new connection is displayed,” which Applicants do not concede, then Applicants respectfully submit that it would still not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to provide the claimed software feature identified above.

Firstly, Falcon teaches away from placing its connection icons on a desktop. Falcon teaches using a connection folder as a central point of reference for the various functions disclosed by the system of Falcon. For example, Falcon teaches that the connections folder is scanned various times for various connection objects during a reconciliation process 92 when a device is detected as being newly enabled or installed. Falcon, col.9 ll.10-20. The reconciliation process 92 is itself triggered when a connection object is placed in the connections folder 96. *Id.* at col.8 ll.21-22. The connections folder 96 is therefore understood to be used as a single location for connections to be located for processing. Consequently, it is unlikely that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would modify Falcon with Henriquez to place Falcon’s connection objects/icons on a desktop, because if the connection objects/icons of Falcon were placed on a desktop, then not only would the reconciliation process 92 be forced to scan different locations multiple times, but the reconciliation process 92 would not even begin, because it is triggered when connection icons are placed in the connections folder 96.

Secondly, Applicants respectfully submit that inappropriate hindsight bias is being used to combine Henriquez and Falcon. “Obviousness can not be established by hindsight combination to produce the claimed invention. . . [I]t is the prior art itself, and not the applicant’s achievement, that must establish the obviousness of the combination.” *In re Dance*, 160 F.3d 1339 (Fed. Cir. 1998). The above-identified feature of the claimed invention is achieved, in certain embodiments, by the modification of the operating system’s registry. Specifically, appropriate registry entries are inserted, set, and executed in order to achieve the desired feature. Subject Application, paragraphs [47] and [56]. It is well known to those of ordinary skill in the art that the modification of an operating system registry is a complex procedure that risks destabilizing the entire operating system when not conducted properly. Therefore, a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made would not be inclined to modify an operating system registry. Only with an inappropriate hindsight combination of Falcon and Henriquez with reference to Applicants’ disclosure would the claimed invention be achieved.

Therefore, Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 could not have been obvious under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 are allowable, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1, 7, 17, and 21 are respectfully requested.

The other claims currently under consideration in the application are dependent from their respective independent claims discussed above and therefore are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least similar reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, the individual consideration of each on its own

merits is respectfully requested. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the dependent claims are respectfully requested.

The absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue, or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue, or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be other reasons that have not been expressed for patentability of any or all claims. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede, or actual concession of, any issue with regard to any claim, or to any cited art, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment or cancellation of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment or cancellation.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions, please call the undersigned at the phone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 502203 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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